GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
WATER RESOURCES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:758
ANSWERED ON:06.12.2004
SARDAR SAROVAR PROJECT
Gadhavi Shri Pushpdan Shambhudan;Singh Shri Dushyant

Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the work on construction of Sardar Sarovar Project has been delayed;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the present status, revised cost and time schedule for the completion of Sardar Sarovar Project alongwith time and expenditure incurred thereon, till date;

(d) whether the project has witnessed abnormal cost and time overrun;

(e) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(f) by when the water is likely to be made available to the participating States?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV)

(a) & (b) Yes, Sir. The construction of the Sardar Sarovar Project was delayed because of the writ petition filed by the Narmada Bachao Andolan in the Supreme Court of India.

(c) The height of the Sardar Sarovar Dam has been raised to Elevation Level (EL) 110.64 metre by June, 2004. The total expenditure incurred on the project up to September, 2004 is Rs. 17,879.88 crore. The latest estimated cost of the project at 2000- 01 price level is Rs. 28487.50 crore. As per the present Action Plan prepared by Narmada Control Authority, the scheduled completion of the Sardar Sarovar Dam is June, 2005. The scheduled completion of the main canal in the State of Gujarat is by 2006- 07 and that in the State of Rajasthan is by 2009-10.

(d) & (e) The time and cost overrun of the project is largely due to court litigation and the liberalized Resettlement and Rehabilitation package offered by the States.

(f) As the dam has been raised to the minimum draw down level of EL 110.64 metre, generation of hydropower has been commenced in the Canal Head Power House and shared by the States of Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra and Gujarat. The Government of Gujarat has already started deriving partial irrigation benefits and meeting drinking water requirements.